

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4227–S4348

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1632–1640, and S. Res. 232–233. **Pages S4299–S4300**

Measures Considered:

American Health Care Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 1628, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S4227–97**

Rejected:

By 45 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 169), Enzi (for Paul) Amendment No. 271 (to Amendment No. 267), of a perfecting nature. **Pages S4227–52**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 170), Donnelly motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance with instructions. **Pages S4227, S4252**

By 48 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 171), Casey motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance with instructions to report back with instructions. **Pages S4252–59, S4262**

Pending:

McConnell Amendment No. 267, of a perfecting nature. **Page S4227**

McConnell (for Daines) Modified Amendment No. 340 (to Amendment No. 267), to provide for comprehensive health insurance coverage for all United States residents, improved healthcare delivery. **Page S4263**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 10 yeas to 90 nays (Vote No. 172), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to Enzi (for Heller) Amendment No. 288 (to Amendment No. 267), to express the sense of the Senate that Medicaid expansion is a priority and that Obamacare must be improved. Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 313(b)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S4256–63**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, July 27, 2017, with the time until 2:15 p.m. equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; and that at 2:15 p.m., Senate vote on or in relation to McConnell (for Daines) Modified Amendment No. 340 (to Amendment No. 267) (listed above). **Page S4348**

Messages from the House: **Page S4299**

Measures Referred: **Page S4299**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4300–01**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S4301–10**

Additional Statements: **Pages S4298–99**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4301–47**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S4229**

Privileges of the Floor: **Pages S4347–48**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—172) **Pages S4252, S4262–63**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:57 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 27, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4348.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of the Treasury, after receiving testimony from Steven T. Mnuchin, Secretary, John Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, and J. Russell

George, Inspector General, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, all of the Department of the Treasury.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Karen Dunn Kelley, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Peter B. Davidson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Commerce, and Mark H. Buzby, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration, and Ronald L. Batory, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, both of the Department of Transportation, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

PUBLIC LANDS LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining concluded a hearing to examine S. 32, to provide for conservation, enhanced recreation opportunities, and development of renewable energy in the California Desert Conservation Area, S. 90, to survey the gradient boundary along the Red River in the States of Oklahoma and Texas, S. 357, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public lands in San Bernardino County, California, to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District, and to accept in return certain exchanged non-public lands, S. 436, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to retire coal preference right lease applications for which the Secretary has made an affirmative commercial quantities determination, to substitute certain land selections of the Navajo Nation, to designate certain wilderness areas, S. 467, to provide for the disposal of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Mohave County, Arizona, S. 468, to establish a procedure for resolving claims to certain rights-of-way, S. 614, to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a pilot program for commercial recreation concessions on certain land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, S. 785, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of land to Alaska Native veterans, S. 837, to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Washington County, Utah, to authorize the exchange of Federal land and non-Federal land in the State of Utah, S. 884, to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to require the Bureau of Land Management to provide a claimant of a small miner waiver from claim maintenance fees with a period of 60 days after written receipt of 1 or more defects is provided to the claimant by registered mail to cure the 1 or more defects or pay the claim maintenance fee, S. 941, to withdraw certain National Forest System

land in the Emigrant Crevice area located in the Custer Gallatin National Forest, Park County, Montana, from the mining and mineral leasing laws of the United States, S. 1149, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to repeal a provision limiting the export of timber harvested from land conveyed to the Kake Tribal Corporation under that Act, S. 1230, to prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, S. 1271, to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as "Fowler Peak" and "Boskoff Peak", and S. 1548, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas and to make additional wild and scenic river designations in the State of Oregon, after receiving testimony from Senators Hatch and Tester; Glenn Casamassa, Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and John Ruhs, Acting Deputy Director for Operations, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 1514, to amend certain Acts to reauthorize those Acts and to increase protections for wildlife, with amendments.

SOUTH SUDAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy concluded a hearing to examine South Sudan's conflict and famine, after receiving testimony from Joshua Meservey, The Heritage Foundation, and Payton Knopf, and Aly Verjee, both of the United States Institute of Peace, all of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Michael Arthur Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Maria E. Brewer, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone, and John P. Desrocher, of New York, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1584, to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to reauthorize the Judicial Conference of the United States to redact sensitive information contained in financial disclosure reports of judicial officers and employees;

S. 873, to amend section 8433 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from the Thrift Savings Fund;

S. 886, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security;

S. 906, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for congressional notification regarding major acquisition program breaches, with an amendment;

S. 1199, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize the Border Enforcement Security Task Force program within the Department of Homeland Security, with amendments;

S. 938, to require notice of cost-free Federal procurement technical assistance in connection with registration of small business concerns in procurement systems;

S. 1208, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide for an option under the Secure Mail Initiative under which a person to whom a document is sent under that initiative may elect to have the United States Postal Service use the Hold for Pickup service or the Signature Confirmation service in delivering the document;

S. Con. Res. 15, expressing support for the designation of October 28, 2017, as “Honoring the Nation’s First Responders Day”;

H.R. 1293, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees;

H.R. 1117, to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report regarding certain plans regarding assistance to applicants and grantees during the response to an emergency or disaster;

H.R. 1679, to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency;

H.R. 195, to amend title 44, United States Code, to restrict the distribution of free printed copies of the Federal Register to Members of Congress and other officers and employees of the United States; and

H.R. 194, to ensure the effective processing of mail by Federal agencies, and an original bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to reauthorize the Judicial Conference of the United States to redact sensitive information contained in financial disclosure reports of judicial officers and employees.

ATTEMPTS TO INFLUENCE U.S. ELECTIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee held an oversight hearing to examine the Foreign Agents Registration Act and attempts to influence United States elections, focusing on lessons learned from current and prior Administrations, after receiving testimony from Adam S. Hickey, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Bill Priestap, Assistant Director, Counterintelligence Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, all of the Department of Justice. Hearings recessed subject to the call and will meet again on Thursday, July 27, 2017.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 1598, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

TYPE I DIABETES

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine progress toward a cure for Type I Diabetes, focusing on research and the artificial pancreas, after receiving testimony from Griffin P. Rodgers, Director, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services; Angie and Jonathan Platt, Encino, California, Charlie Albair, Gray, Maine, and Lorynn Watt, Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, all of the JDRC 2017 Children’s Congress; and Paul Sparks, New York, New York.